



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/978,114	10/15/2001	Richard H. Jones	PHB 34-221A	3750
24737	7590	10/24/2003	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS			NGUYEN, DAVID Q	
P.O. BOX 3001			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			2681	

DATE MAILED: 10/24/2003

13

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/978,114	JONES ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	David Q Nguyen	2681	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 August 2003.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 20-30 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 20-30 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 20-30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 20-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Morishima (US Patent Number 6075998).

Regarding claim 20, Morishima discloses a communication device, comprising a receiver operable to receive one of a numeric message, and alphanumeric message and a voice mail message (see col. 5, line 60 to col. 6, line 17; fig. 5); and a processor operable to compose a melody corresponding to the one of a numeric message, and alphanumeric message and a voice mail message subsequent to a reception of the one of a numeric message, and alphanumeric message and a voice mail message (see col. 6, lines 18-63; and fig. 5).

Regarding claim 23, Katayama discloses a method of operating a communication device in alerting a user of the communication device of an incoming message, said method comprising receiving one of a numeric message, and alphanumeric message and a voice mail message (see col. 5, line 60 to col. 6, line 17; fig. 5); and compose a melody corresponding to the one of a

numeric message, and alphanumeric message and a voice mail message subsequent to a reception of the one of a numeric message, and alphanumeric message and a voice mail message (see col. 6, lines 18-63; and fig. 5).

Regarding claims 21 and 24, Morishima also discloses wherein said processor is further operable to divide the one of the numeric message, the alphanumeric message and the voicemail message into a plurality of fields to thereby compose the melody (see col. 6, lines 18-63; fig. 5).

Regarding claim 22, Morishima discloses a communication device comprising all of the limitations as claimed above. Morishima also discloses the plurality of fields including a tempo field, a repetitive play field, and at least one note field (see col. 4, lines 1-61 and col. 5, lines 36-59).

Regarding claim 25, Morishima discloses a communication device comprising a receiver operable to receive a message (see col. 5, line 60 to col. 6, line 17; fig. 11); a processor operable to control a display of the message (see fig. 8 and 11) and a transformation of the message into a melody subsequent to a reception of the message by said receiver (see col. 6, lines 18-63; and fig. 5).

Regarding claim 26, Morishima also discloses wherein said processor is further operable to divide the message into a plurality of fields to thereby transform the message into the melody (see col. 6, lines 18-63; and fig. 5).

Regarding claim 27, Morishima also discloses wherein the plurality of fields includes a tempo field, a repetitive play field, and at least one note field (see col. 4, lines 1-61 and col. 5, lines 36-59).

Regarding claim 28, Morishima also discloses wherein the message is a numeric message (see col. 6, lines 18-63; and fig. 5).

Regarding claim 29, Morishima also discloses wherein the message is an alphanumeric message (see col. 6, lines 18-63; and fig. 5; 1st numeral data D1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morishima (US Patent Number 6075998) in view of Willner et al (US Patent Number 6064666).

Regarding claim 30, Morishima discloses a communication device comprising all of the limitations as claimed in claim 25. Morishima is silent to disclose wherein the message is a voice mail message. However, Willner et al teach the message is a voice mail message (see col. 19, lines 43-62, converting a voice mail message to text). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the above teaching of Willner et al with Morishima in order to allow the user to compose the melodic sound using voice mail message.

Art Unit: 2681

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Q Nguyen whose telephone number is 7036054254. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dwayne Bost can be reached on 703-305-4040. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

DN

David Nguyen


SINH TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER